**Regional Realism (Regionalism) (1870-1900)**

The post-Civil war period saw the nation reunited and transformed. Writers responded by attempting to preserve in their writing the distinct character of American’s regions and to come to terms with some of its harsh new realities.

**What is Regional Realism?**

Regionalism is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Regionalist authors shared the realist goal of showing ordinary lives without romance or sentimentality. Other writers used exaggeration for comic effect or to make their stories livelier.

**Characteristics of Regionalism:**

* Sought to record for the future the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of a region
* Captured life on the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and in other regions
* The incorporation of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ settings and local color (customs/dialect)
* The use of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and comic effect.
* Portrayal of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ lives.

**Authors of Regionalism:**

* Bret Harte—wrote about life on the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* Willa Cather—wrote about life on the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* Mark Twain—wrote about life on the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ River.

**What is Naturalism?**

An offshoot of realism, Naturalism was a literary movement that originated in France in the late 1800s. Like the realists, the Naturalists sought to render common people and ordinary life accurately. However, Naturalists emphasized how \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ affect human behavior. Strongly influenced by Charles Darwin’s ideas, the Naturalists believed that the fate of humans is determined by forces \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**The Core Characteristic of Naturalism:**

* The use of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_-, and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ tone to convey themes pertaining to man vs. nature.

**Authors of Naturalism:**

* Jack London
* Stephen Crane—*The Red Badge of Courage****,*** “Maggie, Girl of the Streets”
* Edith Wharton

Jack London (1876-1916)

* London grew up in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and when he was young, he spent periods of time doing back-breaking \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* At the age of \_\_\_\_\_\_ (1893), he boarded a ship for a seal-hunting expedition to the Bering Sea. He eventually quit working to travel the country as a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* Eventually, he was arrested for vagrancy and jailed for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ days. After jail, he made the decision to pursue a writing career.
* In 1897 London receive news of the Klondike \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and travelled to Alaska in hopes of finding \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. The author became ill and had to return home, yet his experiences in Alaska served as the basis for the themes of his Naturalist works.
* Famous works by London include *Call of the Wild* and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. He also published a collection of short stories.
* He inspired \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and Jack Kerouac.